1875-76

R.M.H.S. RESOURCE CENTER
READING, MASS.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES

OF THE

# TOWN OF READING,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1876,

WITH THE

REPORTS OF THE TOWN CLERK, TREASURER, COLLECTOR, SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, OVERSEERS OF POOR, SCHOOL COMMITTEE, ROAD COMMISSIONERS, ENGINEERS OF FIRE DEPARTMENT, TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY, TRUSTEES OF CEMETERY, TRUSTEES OF SINKING FUND AND AUDITORS.

READING:
EDWIN L. HILL, - - - - PRINTER,
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# TOWN OFFICERS, 1875—76.

Town Clerk.

WILLIAM J. WIGHTMAN.

Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor

J. B. LEATHE, JOSEPH L. PRATT, JAMES REID.

Treasurer and Collector.

JAMES A. BANCROFT.

School Committee.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CARROLL D. WRIGHT, CHAIRMAN, | term expires, | | 1878 |
| SOLON BANCROFT, | " | " | 1878 |
| WALTER S. PARKER, | " | " | 1877 |
| HIRAM BARRUS, | " | " | 1876 |
| EPHRAIM HUNT, (resigned.) | " | " | 1877 |
| J. C. COOK, (elected to fill vacancy.) | " | " | 1876 |
| HORACE G. WADLIN, SECRETARY. | " | " | 1876 |

Road Commissioners.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JAMES A. BANCROFT, CHAIRMAN, | term expires, | | 1878 |
| CHARLES A. WESTON, | " | " | 1876 |
| HENRY S. LaCLAIR, | " | " | 1877 |

Board of Health.

J. B. LEATHE, JOSEPH L. PRATT, JAMES REID.

Engineers of Fire Department.

CHARLES H. LANG, CHIEF,

CHARLES H. DANFORTH, EDWARD C. NICHOLS,

DAVID CROWELL, JOSEPH W. SPOKESFIELD.

Sealer of Weights and Measures.

DANIEL B. LOVEJOY.

Constables.

HUBBARD E. COX, WILLIAM L. CROWE.

Police Officers.

HUBBARD E. COX, WILLIAM L. CROWE,

JOHN A. BLUNT, CHARLES H. ROBINSON.

Trustees of Public Library.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EDWARD APPLETON, | term expires, | | 1878 |
| F. O. DEWEY, | " | " | 1878 |
| STEPHEN FOSTER, | " | " | 1877 |
| F. H. KNIGHTS, | " | " | 1877 |
| WILLIAM PROCTOR, | " | " | 1876 |
| HIRAM BARRUS, | " | " | 1876 |

Trustees of Cemetery.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| F. O. DEWEY, | term expires, | | 1878 |
| G. C. GLEASON, | " | " | 1878 |
| T. B. PRATT, | " | " | 1877 |
| WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON, | " | " | 1877 |
| F. H. KNIGHTS, | " | " | 1876 |
| SOLON BANCROFT, TREASURER. | " | " | 1876 |

Auditors.

WILLIAM PROCTOR, FRANCIS BARTLEY, FREDERIC BANCROFT.

# Town Clerk's Report.

## BIRTHS REGISTERED IN READING IN 1875.

| DATE. | NAMES. | SEX. | NAMES OF PARENTS. | OC'PATION OF FATHER. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan | 2 Edward Harrison Crowe | M | William L and Sophia | Cabinet Maker |
| " | 9 Jason Elbridge Richardson | M | Jason W. and Mary C. | Shoe Manufacturer |
| " | 19 .... .... Porter | M | Simeon and Judith | Wheelwright |
| " | 19 Emma Elmina Totten | F | Robert C. and Mary A. | Blacksmith . |
| " | 20 Edward Emory Brown | M | H. Walter and Ella H. | Mechanic |
| " | 23 Emma Wilhelmine Wiechman | F | Carl and Caroline | Cabinet Maker |
| Feb | 5 James Edward O'Brien | M | James and Mary A. | Mechanic |
| " | 26 Hattie May Putnam | F | Daniel and Mary S. | Farmer |
| Mar | 2 George W. Oliver | M | George W. and Abbie E. | ..... |
| " | 3 Lewis Christy Milbury | M | William C. and Armor | Mechanic |
| " | 3 Lottie Harriet Brooks | F | Francis E. and Clara L. | Mechanic |
| " | 5 Alice McCall | F | Patrick and Margaret . | Harness Maker |
| " | 9 Charles Albert Batchelder | M | Edward S. and Ella G | Salesman |
| " | 10 James Henry Wilson | M | James and Elizabeth J. | Farmer |
| " | 19 Ada Millett Kimball | F | Charles D. and Ida G. | Machinist |
| " | 21 Daisy Ardele Nichols | F | Charles N. and Etta D. | Clerk |
| " | 23 Lena May Temple | F | Warren K. and Annie M. | Mechanic |
| " | 29 Charlotte W. Parker | F | Thomas A. and Sarah A. | Cabinet Maker |
| April | 4 .... .. . McPhe | F | James McPhe | ..... |
| " | 9 Florence Bessey Runnels | F | Joseph F. and Lydia A. | Mechanic |
| " | 9 .... .... Brooks | M | Edward F. and Mary L. | Salesman |
| " | 19 .... .... Callahan | M | John and Mary J. | Baggage master |
| " | 21 Eva Harnden Pratt | F | Harland P. and Nancy I. | Neck-tie Cutter |
| " | 29 .... .... McGriggin | F | John and Annie | Cabinet Maker |
| May | 2 Nelson Tracy Stone | M | Stillman N. and Sarah J. | Trader |
| " | 8 Ethel Roby Lloyd | F | Alfred H. and Luella R. | Mechanic |
| " | 10 Emma Elsie Wakefield | F | Charles and Mary A. | Farmer |
| " | 14 Bessie Livermore Dewey | F | Francis H. and Augusta T. | Clerk |
| June | 3 .... .... Taylor | M | John Taylor | ..... |
| " | 13 Harry Bancroft McIntire | M | Adelbert C. and Almira E. | Painter |
| " | 14 Agnes Wilson Copeland | F | Edward and Crissie C. | Confectioner |
| " | 21 George Wales Ridlon | M | Alfred B. and Mary A. | Carpenter |
| " | 23 Elmer Holbrook Robinson | M | Henry and Mary H. | Merchant |
| July | 19 .... .... Lewis | M | John B. Jr., and Mary W. | Merchant |
| " | 26 Hattie Pringle Jeffrey | F | William B. and Mary P. | Cabinet Maker |
| " | 28 Alverde Homer Parker | M | Milton D. and Melvina | Farmer |
| Aug | 7 Clarence Winslow Cummings | M | Charles W. and Susan | Expressman |
| " | 18 Edward Albert Veo | M | Frank and Theresa | Mechanic |
| " | 30 Marion Helen Garfield | F | M. Howell and Isabel W. | Painter |
| " | 30 John Albert Channell | M | Daniel and Phebe A. | Machinist |
| Sept | 4 Walter Raymond Emerson | M | Walter A. and Ella M. | Farmer |
| " | 21 Genevra Nichols | F | Moses E. and Emma E. | Painter |
| " | 23 Mary Florence Clark | F | Joshua and Hannah R. | Bank Teller |
| Oct | 3 John Colby Sanborn | M | Charles F. and Jennie E. | Carpenter |
| " | 11 Flora Evelyn Stevens | F | George C. and Martha A. | Mechanic |
| " | 24 Margretta Hopkins Weston | F | David and Mary A. | Clock maker |
| " | 28 Jeremiah Keenan | M | Jeremiah and Catherine | Laborer |
| " | 28 .... .... Damon | M | Albert P. and Elizabeth R. | Merchant |
| Nov | 2 Marion Kemp Dewey | F | Edgar O. and Lizzie D. | Salesman |
| " | 10 .... .... Goodwin | F | Marcellus B. and Hattie H. | Cabinet Maker |
| " | 11 Herbert L. Austin | M | Oliver W. and Ella A. | Machinist |
| " | 14 Grace Idelle Fox | F | Eli E. and Nellie J. | Teacher |
| " | 18 Herman T. Evans | M | Thomas A. and Esther A. | Laborer |
| Dec | 11 Bartholemew Foley | M | Bartholemew and Mary | Laborer |
| " | 11 Marion Maggie Doucette | F | Felix and Mary | Carpenter |
| " | 16 Eva Arvesta Litchfield | F | Hiram and Arvesta | Stable Keeper |
| " | 25 Carl Gibson Parker | M | Frederick H. and Alice E. | Coal Dealer |
| " | 27 Sarah Alfaretta Carter | F | Alfred G. and Sarah L. D. | Farmer |

Number of births registered for the year 1875, 58; Males, 29—Females, 29.

NATIVITY OF PARENTS—United States, Father, 43 Mother, 44

Foreign, Father, 15 Mother, 14

# MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN READING IN 1875.

| DATE. | NAME OF GROOM AND BRIDE. | AGE. | RESIDENCE. | OCCUPATION OF GROOM. | PLACE OF BIRTH. | NAMES OF PARENTS. | BY WHOM MARRIED. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan 1 | Eli E. Fox | 25 | Weston | Teacher | Tuftonborough | Ira and Cynthia | Rev. W. H. Hatch |
| | Ella J. Bassett | 22 | Reading | | Reading | Edwin and Sarah A. H. | |
| Jan 20 | Frank F. Temple | 23 | Reading | Salesman | Reading | Roswell N. and Zebiah A. | " William H. Willcox |
| | Ida George | 21 | Reading | | Methuen | Frederick and Mira | |
| May 4 | William L. Jones | 39 | Reading | Farmer | Weld, Me | Jacob and Elmira | " G. W. Kenney, New Bos- |
| | Sarah A. Russell | 29 | NewBostonNH | | New Boston, NH | Ezekiel and Nancy J. | [ton, NH |
| May 19 | Henry M. Brown | 42 | Reading | Shoe | Reading | Jeddie and Sophia B. | " William Barrows |
| | Martha H. Appleton | 31 | Reading | business | Boston | Edward and Francis A. | |
| June 1 | Edward B. Nye | 27 | Wakefield | Mechanic | Montpelier, Vt | Ezekiel and Sarah A. | " William Barrows |
| | Mary B. Hersey | 27 | Wakefield | | Haverhill | John A. and Eunice B. | |
| June 10 | Andrew Mellen | 35 | Wakefield | Shoe maker | Albany, NY | Andrew and Jane | " William A. Thompson |
| | Hattie Neary | 33 | Wst Somerville | | Nova Scotia | William and Rebecca | |
| June 29 | Sydney P. Pratt | 25 | Reading | Counsellor | Reading | Nathan P. and Louisa W. | " William A. Thompson |
| | Ella Louise Kingman | 25 | Reading | at law | New York, NY | Henry and Martha C. | |
| July 15 | Isaac Mott Cutter | 27 | Wakefield | Chair maker | Charlestown | Isaac S. and Martha A. | " James K. Ewer |
| | Nellie F. Brown | 21 | Wakefield | | Scituate | Thomas J. and Lydia A. | |
| July 27 | George E. Parkhurst | 26 | Woburn | Engineer | Charlestown | Benjamin E. and Louisa M. | " W. S. Barnes, Woburn |
| | Sr Fanny Turner | 27 | Reading | | England | George R. and Sally | |
| Aug 19 | Frank D. Deming | 33 | Wakefield | Overseer | Cornish, NH | Stephen B. and Nancy | " William H. Willcox |
| | Vesta A. Moses | 27 | Stoneham | | Stoneham | Nehemiah and Hannah | |
| Sept 8 | Horace G. Wadlin | 24 | Reading | Architect | Wakefield | Daniel H. and Lucy E. | " W. F. Potter, Wakefield |
| | Ella F. Butterfield | 22 | Wakefield | | Saugus | E. Averhill and S. Esther | |
| Sept 25 | Charles Myers | 40 | Reading | Mechanic | Boston | William and Sarah | " William H. Willcox |
| | Louisa J. McAllister | 25 | Reading | | Reading | Benjamin and Mary A. | |
| Oct 6 | Merrick A. Stone | 28 | Reading | Merchant | Rutland | Stillman and Jennette A. | " William H. Willcox |
| | Rosa Annette Brooks | 30 | Reading | | Reading | William and Elizabeth A. | |
| Oct 7 | Henry Rood | 28 | Lynn | Shoe cutter | Winchester, Conn | William H. and Elizabeth H. | " William H. Willcox |
| | Josephine Nelson | 25 | Reading | | Reading | Hiel J. and Maria | |
| Oct 7 | Lyman B. Foster | 48 | Canterbury NH | Teacher | Canterbury, NH | Simeon B. and Polly S. | " William H. Willcox |
| | Jennie Turner | 35 | Reading | | England | George R. and Sally | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Oct | 7 | Frank W. Hunton | 25 | Reading | Cabinet maker | Reading | Harry and Adaline A. | " E. B. Fairchild |
| | | Helen M. Blood | 23 | Reading | | Reading | Amariah and Elizabeth A. | |
| Oct | 26 | Eugene L. Lovejoy | 24 | Reading | Clerk | Reading | Jeremiah G. and Susan R. | " John H. Mansfield, Chelsea |
| | | Lizzie A. Robinson | 22 | Chelsea | | Brookline | William and Jane | |
| Oct | 27 | William G. Hawes | 28 | Reading | Merchant | Wellfleet | William and Temperance | " William H. Willcox |
| | | Annie W. Guilford | 24 | Swampscot | | Frenchtown, NJ | Henry P. and Lucy A. | |
| Nov | 7 | Henry Lachance | 18 | Reading | Finisher | Lowell | .... .... and Martha | " W. H. Hatch |
| | | Effie A. Bunker | 18 | Reading | | Newark, Vt | William B. and Olive R. | |
| Nov | 10 | Frank E. Crafts | 23 | Reading | Book keeper | Newton | Nathan and Serena H. | " H. J. Fitzpatrick, West Newton |
| | | Jennette N. Watling | 23 | Newton | | New Brunswick | John and Jessie | |
| Nov | 11 | William S. Arrington | 40 | Janesville, Wis. | Shoe cutter | Salem | William M. and Lydia H. | " Henry A. Metcalf, Melrose |
| | | Sophia H. Gibson | 27 | Reading | | Barnstable | James and Sophia H. | |
| Dec | 16 | George Hagar | 22 | Reading | Baggage master | Charlestown | George and Martha | " Charles U. Dunning, Lawrence |
| | | Agnes L. Bessey | 19 | Reading | | Reading | Seth and Martha | |

Whole number of Marriages registered in Reading for the year 1875, 22

NATIVITY OF PERSONS MARRIED.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| United States, | Males, | 22 | Females, | 18 |
| Foreign, | " | none | " | 4 |

## DEATHS REGISTERED IN READING IN 1875.

| DATE. | | NAMES. | AGE Y | M | D | NAMES OF PARENTS OR HUSBAND. | CAUSE. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan | 11 | Rebecca C. Hodgdon | 62 | 8 | 29 | Stephen C. and Sarah | Pneumonia |
| " | 22 | Esther Damon | 74 | 11 | 15 | .... and Eliza Austin | Pneumonia |
| " | 27 | Charles Gerritson | | 1 | | Charles and Emma | Malformed heart |
| " | 17 | Charles H. Ellis | 34 | 11 | | William B. and Sarah E. | Consumption |
| Feb | 3 | Jane Thayer | 71 | 10 | | Eliphalet Thayer | Fracture of thigh |
| " | 4 | Abbie M. Mentzen | 27 | 5 | 13 | Hiel J. and MariaW. Nelson | Consumption |
| " | 7 | Noyes Carleton | 86 | | 7 | Samuel and Susannah | Pneumonia, old age |
| " | 12 | Mary P. Weston | 72 | 9 | | Eliab and Polly Parker | Paralysis |
| " | 22 | William Wakefield | 87 | 3 | 24 | Timothy and Susannah | Old age |
| " | 25 | Hattie E. Eames | | 8 | 8 | Leonard T. and Emily M. | Measles |
| " | 28 | Mary A. Pitman | 25 | 8 | 8 | E. M. and M. L. Pitman | Gastric fever |
| Mar | 29 | James J. McKenney | 15 | 4 | 13 | Owen and Bridget | Unknown |
| April | 3 | Dennis Lahan | 53 | | | Daniel and Mary | Consumption |
| " | 9 | Emma L. Richardson | 27 | 11 | 9 | Richard B. and Louisa | Apoplexy |
| " | 9 | .... .... Brooks | in | fa | nt | Edward F. and Mary L. | |
| " | 10 | Mahala Bancroft | 60 | 4 | 24 | Joseph Bancroft | Cirrtoris anemia |
| " | 11 | Rebecca E. Batchelder | 69 | 8 | 13 | George Batchelder | Brights disease |
| " | 17 | Hiram F. Randall | 2 | 8 | 5 | Hiram G. and Eliza | Small pox |
| " | 17 | Edward F. Gilpatrick | 4 | | | Edwin and Helen | Consumption |
| " | 29 | Abner Bancroft | 71 | 9 | 7 | Timothy and Lydia | Consumption |
| May | 1 | Harry E. Nute | 5 | 7 | 10 | J. H. and Florence A. | Pleuro pneumonia |
| " | 11 | Arsanah Webber | 37 | 4 | 10 | Sherebiah Webber | Pneumonia |
| " | 13 | Calvin Temple | 69 | 6 | 28 | Daniel and Sarah | Pneumonia |
| " | 19 | Betsey Lovejoy | 74 | 5 | 19 | Benjamin and Mary Smith | Paralysis |
| " | 22 | Pamelia Parker | 77 | | | Benjamin and Susannah | Paralysis |
| " | 23 | Charles B. McIntire | 53 | | | John and Miranda | Consumption |
| " | 25 | Sophia B. Brown | 80 | 6 | | Timothy and Lydia | Pneumonia |
| June | 14 | Ivory Murray | 80 | 2 | 11 | .... .... .... | Old age, dropsy |
| " | 20 | Horatio G. Brown | 77 | 2 | 19 | John and Mary | Old age |
| " | 21 | Gracie F. Broad | 3 | 2 | 11 | N. W. and Mary E. | Pneumonia |
| July | 2 | Charlotte W. Parker | | 3 | 4 | Thomas A. and Sarah A. | Bronchitis (acute) |
| " | 4 | Emily V. Ellery | 29 | 4 | | GeorgeW. and EllenW. Soule | Dropsy |
| Aug | 8 | Frederick E. Hibbert | 18 | 8 | 3 | Joseph and Mary P. | Thrombosis of heart |
| " | 16 | Charles I. Witt | | 5 | 16 | H. C. and Eliza J. | Hydrocephalus |
| " | 16 | Abbot N. Hutchins | 19 | 2 | | Luther and Julia F. | Typhoid fever |
| " | 17 | Fannie Estella Temple | | 7 | 28 | William H and Ruth A. | Disease of brain |
| " | 19 | Aaron Parker | 87 | 6 | 2 | Aaron and Jerusha | Old age |
| " | 23 | Aaron McIntire | 83 | 5 | 27 | Aaron and Sarah | Old age |
| " | 30 | Edith Broad | | 11 | 19 | N. W. and Mary E. | Cholera infantum |
| " | 30 | Nancy Kimball | 46 | 1 | 15 | James D. Kimball | Consumption |
| Sept | 1 | Cynthia Tibbetts | 71 | | | Enos Tibbetts | Effusion on brain |
| " | 5 | George S. Hearn | 32 | 1 | 27 | Jeremiah and Martha | Hemorrhage of lungs |
| " | 9 | Eliza N. Coburn | 53 | 2 | 24 | Josiah W. Coburn | Typhoid dysentery |
| " | 15 | .... .... Lewis | | 2 | 2 | John B. Jr. and Mary U. | Dysentery, canker |
| " | 16 | .... .. . Colby | | 4 | | Charles T. and Emma | Cholera infantum |
| " | 17 | William AugustusThompson | 36 | 10 | | William and Eliza W. | Typhoid dysentery |
| " | 29 | Eunice Ricker | 60 | | | Levi and Mary | Congestion of lungs |
| Oct | 1 | Mary E. Nichols | 22 | 1 | 6 | William G. and Mary | Cerebro menengitis |
| " | 2 | Timothy Stevens | 80 | 6 | | Samuel Stevens | Dysentery erysipelas |
| " | 16 | Frances E. Walker | 37 | 7 | 16 | War'n and Susan B. Fletcher | Consumption |
| " | 25 | Rebecca Weston | 75 | 1 | 20 | Jonathan & Pearn Baldwin | Accidental |
| Nov | 3 | Thomas H. Day | 30 | 2 | | Thomas C. and Elizabeth B | Consumption |
| " | 11 | Mary B. Goodwin | | | 2 | Marcellus B. and Hattie H. | Malformat'n of heart |
| " | 20 | Lyman Pratt | 57 | 5 | 15 | Daniel and Betsey | Pnemo pleuritis |
| " | 21 | Herman T. Evans | | | 3 | Thomas A. and Esther A. | Imperforate Anus |
| Dec | 23 | George W. Oliver | | 10 | | George W. and Abbie E. | Tuberculur menser- |
| " | 29 | Sarah A. Stone | 50 | 4 | 28 | Cleaveland B. and SallyHolt | Pneumonia [gitis |
| " | 30 | Herbert W. Leathe | 21 | 5 | | James S. and Ann M. | Consumption |

Whole number of deaths registered for the year 1875, 58; Males, 30—Females, 28.

NATIVITY—Reading, 33 Other towns in U. S., 24 Foreign, 1

WILLIAM J. WIGHTMAN, TOWN CLERK.

# Receipts and Expenditures.

## ALMSHOUSE. DR.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| For amount of inventory of March 1st., 1875, | $2630 77 | |
| groceries, | 302 75 | |
| flour and bread, | 153 66 | |
| grain and meal, | 171 75 | |
| provisions, | 263 59 | |
| fish, | 21 41 | |
| bedding and clothing, | 27 44 | |
| furniture, | 30 49 | |
| produce, | 14 58 | |
| wood and coal, | 288 88 | |
| wheelwright and blacksmith bills, | 36 47 | |
| hired labor, | 41 70 | |
| medicine, | 19 95 | |
| medical services, | 22 00 | |
| repair on buildings, | 29 53 | |
| farming tools, | 2 65 | |
| funeral expense of H. G. Brown, | 27 00 | |
| salary of keeper, | 454 17 | |
| | | $4538 79 |

## ALMSHOUSE. CR.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| By labor on highways, | $343 63 | |
| wood sold, | 418 33 | |
| lighting street lamps, | 75 00 | |
| board of sundry persons, | 265 00 | |
| labor for sundry persons, | 8 75 | |
| produce sold, | 29 63 | |
| stock sold, | 68 17 | |
| cash from collection of bills of previous years, | 62 22 | |
| amount old bills considered worthless, thown out, | 109 35 | |
| lodging and food for 853 tramps, at 50cts., | 426 50 | |
| inventory of March 1st., 1876, | 2448 81 | |
| | | $4255 39 |
| Net expense of poor at house, | | $283 40 |

## INVENTORY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY MARCH 1, 1876.

| | |
|---|---|
| Furniture, | $262 21 |
| Bed and bedding, | 303 50 |
| Stoves and fixtures, | 92 50 |
| Provisions, | 115 24 |
| Manure, | 75 00 |
| Horse, | 200 00 |
| Cow, | 60 00 |
| Swine, | 45 00 |
| Two carts, | 135 00 |
| Farm wagon, | 80 00 |
| Light wagon, | 75 00 |
| Stone wagon, | 20 00 |
| Horse sled, | 25 00 |
| Sleigh, | 5 00 |
| Mowing machine, | 50 00 |
| Farming untensils, | 194 59 |
| Hay, | 95 00 |
| Grain and meal, | 19 00 |
| Fowls, | 15 75 |
| Wood and coal, | 288 06 |
| Posts, lumber and brick, | 16 00 |
| Arches for building cisterns, | 10 00 |
| Bills due for labor, &c., | 266 96 |
| | $2448 81 |

## NAMES AND AGES OF INMATES AT ALMSHOUSE.

| | YEARS. |
|---|---|
| Widow John McIntire, | 79 |
| Miss Caroline Wiley, | 69 |
| Alpheus Austin, | 56 |
| Horatio G. Brown, (died June, 1875,) | 77 |
| Catherine O'Keefe, | 69 |
| James A. Hunter, | 32 |
| Whole number during the year, | 6 |
| Present number, | 5 |

## EXPENSE OF POOR OUT OF HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid for supplies for Ivory Murray, | $17 27 | |
| medical attendance, | 5 50 | |
| AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD, | | $22 77 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amount Brought Forward, - - - | | | $22 77 |
| Paid for supplies for Mary A. Blanchard and family, - | 28 25 | | |
| rent " " " - | 7 50 | | |
| fuel " " " - - | 39 75 | | |
| | | 75 50 | |
| rent " Widow Calvin Nichols and family - | 17 50 | | |
| fuel " " " " - - | 24 50 | | |
| boots, " " " " - - | 4 00 | | |
| | | 46 00 | |
| supplies " Levi Blanchard and family, - - | 2 00 | | |
| medical attendance and medicine, - - - | 13 25 | | |
| | | 15 25 | |
| fuel for Joshua Keller - - - - - | 8 94 | | |
| medical attendance - - - - - | 18 00 | | |
| removal to State Almshouse, - - - - | 4 10 | | |
| | | 31 04 | |
| medical attendance for Thomas Miller, - - | 12 50 | | |
| board and nursing, - - - - - | 7 50 | | |
| removal to State Almshouse, - - - - | 5 05 | | |
| | | 25 05 | |
| supplies for Hannah Welch to City of Boston, - | 16 24 | | |
| " " Town of Quincy, - | 2 50 | | |
| | | 18 74 | |
| " Edmund Grover to City of Boston, - | | 43 63 | |
| burial of child of George Blake to City of Chelsea, | | 12 00 | |
| supplies for Benjamin Weston and family, - - | 191 88 | | |
| fuel " " - - | 40 53 | | |
| | | 232 41 | |
| board of Daniel Sullivan to State Reform School, - | | 26 00 | |
| supplies for Aaron McIntire and family, - - | 15 00 | | |
| rent " " - - | 24 00 | | |
| wood " " - - | 40 96 | | |
| medical attendance " " - - | 2 50 | | |
| | | 82 46 | |
| coal and wood for William Pierce and family, - | | 59 78 | |
| supplies to Widow Abbie E. Oliver and family, - | | 128 14 | |
| " Orville N. Wilder and family, - - | | 15 00 | |
| board of Abigail P. Beers to State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester, - - - - | | 196 90 | |
| supplies for Joseph Bryant and wife, - - - | | 188 48 | |
| " H. Walter Brown, - - - | 66 89 | | |
| coal for " " - - - | 21 50 | | |
| | | 88 39 | |
| supplies for Herbert W. Leathe, - - - | | 19 65 | |
| " Widow Morris Donegan and family, - | 59 62 | | |
| medical attendance, - - - - - | 31 75 | | |
| | | 91 37 | |
| Amount Carried Forward, | | | $1418 56 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount Brought Forward, | | $1418 56 |
| Paid for supplies for Langdon Blanchard, | | 13 00 |
| " Sarah L. Penney and child, | 47 15 | |
| medical attendance, | 10 00 | |
| | | 57 15 |
| wood for Mrs. John Judkins, | | 4 22 |
| rent for Freeman family, | | 24 00 |
| supplies for John H. Daland and family, | | 14 00 |
| railroad tickets for transient paupers, | | 90 |
| | | $1531 83 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Due from Town of Wakefield for supplies for Widow Abbie E. Oliver, | $128 14 | |
| Town of Wakefield for supplies for H. Walter Brown, | 88 39 | |
| " Malden " Sarah L. Penney, | 57 15 | |
| City of Springfield " O. N. Wilder, | 15 00 | |
| | | $288 68 |
| Net expense of poor out of house, | | $1243 15 |
| Net expense of poor in house, | | 283 40 |
| Whole expense of poor out and in the house, | | $1526 55 |

## EXPENSE CONNECTED WITH SMALL POX CASES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Supplies furnished tenants confined to house by order of Board of Health, | $43 31 | |
| for disenfectants and fumigating tenements, | 12 00 | |
| | | $55 31 |

## STATE AID.

| | |
|---|---|
| Paid Lucy J. Allen, | $48 00 |
| Mary A. Blanchard, | 48 00 |
| Dorcas Berry, | 48 00 |
| George W. Carlton, | 18 00 |
| William W. Davis, | 72 00 |
| Lydia C. Eaton, | 48 00 |
| Caroline Goodwin, | 48 00 |
| Sarah Hetler, | 48 00 |
| L. W. Krook, | 36 00 |
| Chas. B. Leathe, | 168 00 |
| Rebecca Lloyd, | 48 00 |
| Benjamin McAllister, | 72 00 |
| William Mears, | 72 00 |
| Edward Manning, | 54 00 |
| Sarah Nichols, | 48 00 |
| Amount Carried Forward, | $876 00 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount Brought Forward, - - - | $876 00 | |
| Paid Catherine O'Keefe, - - - - - | 28 00 | |
| Margaret Pinkham, - - - - - | 48 00 | |
| William B. Reed, - - - - - - | 21 00 | |
| Harriet C. Robinson, - - - - - | 48 00 | |
| Eliza Stevens, - - - - - - | 48 00 | |
| Harriet Young, - - - - - - | 48 00 | |
| | | $1117 00 |

## WATCHMAN.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Harris Austin, for services as night watchman, - - | $67 50 | |

## TOWN OFFICERS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Wm. J. Wightman, for services as School Committee for 1874—5, - - - - - - | $75 00 | |
| Carroll D. Wright, for services as School Committe for 1874—5, - - - - - - | 55 00 | |
| Walter S. Parker, for services as School Committee for 1874—5, | 30 00 | |
| Hiram Barrus, " " " " " " | 15 00 | |
| Solon Bancroft, " " " " " " | 30 00 | |
| Horace G. Wadlin, " " " " "1875—6, | 50 00 | |
| James Reid, for services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor, - - - - - - | 260 00 | |
| J. B. Leathe, for services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor, - - - - - - | 260 00 | |
| J. L. Pratt, for services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor, - - - - - - | 142 00 | |
| James A. Bancroft, for services as Treasurer and Collector, | 325 00 | |
| " " " " " Road Commissioner, | 50 00 | |
| Chas. A. Weston, " " " " " | 50 00 | |
| Henry S. LaClair, " " " " " | 50 00 | |
| Wm. J. Wightman, " " " Town Clerk, | 25 00 | |
| " " " recording births, deaths and marriages, | 51 50 | |
| " " " making other official records, | 12 00 | |
| " " " services at convention for issuing certificate to Representative, - - - - | 2 00 | |
| H. E. Cox, for services as Constable, - - - | 23 00 | |
| Wm. L. Crowe, for services as Constable, - | 21 00 | |
| J. A. Blunt, " " " Police Officer, - - | 8 00 | |
| Solon Bancroft, " " " Auditor for the year ending March, 1874, - - - - - - | 5 00 | |
| D. B. Lovejoy, for services as Sealer of Weights and Measures, | 20 00 | |
| | | $1559 50 |

## TOWN OFFICE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid William Proctor, for rent of office, | $150 00 | |
| for wood and coal, | 13 00 | |
| railroad tickets, | 6 40 | |
| postage, | 2 00 | |
| expressing, | 9 30 | |
| washing windows, | 1 00 | |
| stationery, | 7 13 | |
| general statutes and supplement, | 6 50 | |
| | | $195 33 |

## PRINTING.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid for printing Town Reports for 1875, | $142 76 | |
| for schools, | 11 00 | |
| dog licenses, | 1 00 | |
| notice to owners of dogs, | 1 80 | |
| for Selectmen and Collector, | 65 25 | |
| | | $221 81 |

## EXPENSE IN CASE OF GEO. F. COOK vs. TOWN OF READING.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid C. P. Judd, for legal services, | $119 00 | |
| Train and Teele, for legal services, | 200 00 | |
| Gilman Kimball, M. D., for services as expert, | 50 00 | |
| F. B. Kimball, M. D., " " " | 25 00 | |
| Wm. W. Davis, services as surveyor, | 12 00 | |
| Bancroft & Temple, for model of sidewalk, | 1 00 | |
| Witness fees and summoning, | 85 67 | |
| Selectmen and Treasurer for services, | 34 20 | |
| William B. Stevens, Attorney for Geo. F. Cook, for damages, | 2750 00 | |
| | | $3276 87 |

## EXPENSE IN CASE OF CORA E. ALLEN vs. TOWN OF READING.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid S. P. Breed, Geo. Foster and Benjamin Hibbard, services as referees, | $30 00 | |
| Solon Bancroft, Esq., for drawing agreement, | 2 00 | |
| F. B. Kimball, M. D., witness fees, | 3 00 | |
| H. E. Cox, refreshments for referees, | 1 50 | |
| Selectmen and Treasurer, for services and expenses, | 20 00 | |
| Cora E. Allen, for damages as per award of referees, | 550 00 | |
| | | $606 50 |

## EXPENSES IN CASE OF JOSEPH WHITTREDGE vs. TOWN OF READING.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Solon Bancroft, Esq., for legal services, | $50 00 | |
| W. W. Davis, for services as Surveyor, | 7 00 | |
| H. Barrows, for labor on plan of street, | 1 50 | |
| witness fees and summoning, | 17 10 | |
| Selectmen and Treasurer, for services, | 14 10 | |
| | | $89 70 |

## LAND DAMAGES FOR WIDENING AND STRAIGHTENING STREETS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid William H. Rood for land taken to widen and straighten South Street, | $43 34 | |
| Martha J. Greenwood for land taken to widen and straighten Green Street, | 100 00 | |
| T. T. Greenwood's heirs for land taken to widen and straighten Green Street, | 900 00 | |
| Joseph Hibbert, Jr., for land taken to widen and straighten Highland Street, | 25 00 | |
| Henry W. Kummer for land taken to widen and straighten Highland Street, | 25 00 | |
| | | $1093 34 |

## STREET LIGHTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Citizens Gas Light Company for gas, | $190 53 | |
| Globe " " " naptha | 19 34 | |
| for lighting, | 137 25 | |
| express charges and alcohol, | 2 80 | |
| J. C. Cook for repairs, | 9 45 | |
| sundry expenses, | 6 88 | |
| | | $366 25 |
| Globe Gas Light Co. for 8 lanterns and 7 naptha burners, | $111 00 | |
| J. W. Bartlett for boulevarde lantern, | 9 38 | |
| for posts, ironing and setting same, | 49 37 | |
| | | $169 75 |
| | | $536 00 |

## REPAIRS ON CISTERNS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Edward Parker for labor and materials, | $101 43 | |
| Thomas A. Evans " | 5 00 | |
| H. B. Emerson for cement, | 12 80 | |
| Thomas LaChance for labor, | 6 13 | |
| T. F. Gould for iron work, | 2 56 | |
| AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD, | | $127 92 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| AMOUNT BROUGHT FORWARD, - - - | $127 92 | |
| Paid Samuel Brown for lumber, - - - - - | 3 37 | |
| David Crowell for labor and material, - - - | 69 23 | |
| M. A. Stone for drain pipe, - - - - | 2 12 | |
| Boston & Maine Railroad for freight on cement, - - | 96 | |
| George Bancroft for sand in 1874, - - - - | 9 00 | |
| | | $212 60 |

## DECORATION OF SOLDIERS' GRAVES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Paid Reading Veteran Association, - - - - | $100 00 |

## ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| For 1872, - - - - - - - - | $3 57 | |
| 1873, - - - - - - - - | 79 02 | |
| 1874, - - - - - - - - | 200 29 | |
| 1875, - - - - - - - - | 24 17 | |
| | | $307 05 |

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Lyceum Hall Association for use of hall for town meetings, | $40 00 | |
| W. H. Wightman tending check list, - - - | 3 00 | |
| Henry S. LaClair " " - - - | 3 00 | |
| G. C. Gleason for returning deaths to Town Clerk, - | 13 25 | |
| James A. Bancroft for surveying line between Reading and Woburn in 1874, - - - - - | 10 00 | |
| Charles A. Weston for assisting in surveying line between Reading and Woburn in 1874, - - - | 4 50 | |
| C. A. Weston for teaming, lettering and setting bound stone, | 3 50 | |
| Lynnfield Granite Company for town bound stone, - | 2 63 | |
| Henry Richardson for damages to carriage on Salem street, | 8 50 | |
| A. A. Prescott for legal services in 1873, - - - | 3 00 | |
| " " specifications and contract for Hancock Engine House, - - - - - | 10 00 | |
| H. E. Cox for dinners for County Commissioners, - | 2 50 | |
| George W. Dean for ringing bell, - - - - | 3 00 | |
| William Maynard horse hire for Selectmen, - - | 1 00 | |
| Nathan Bancroft for care and repair of town flag, - | 7 00 | |
| | | $114 88 |

## SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

### RECEIPTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Appropriation for schools, - - - - - | $9000 00 | |
| incidental school expenses, - - | 1000 00 | |
| AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD, | | $10000 00 |

| | |
|---|---|
| AMOUNT BROUGHT FORWARD, | $10000 00 |
| Appropriation for repairs of highways, | 3000 00 |
| construction of Summer street, | 1200 00 |
| fire department, | 1700 00 |
| improvement of cemetery, | 300 00 |
| sinking fund, | 2365 00 |
| interest on town debt, | 4400 00 |
| decoration of soldier's graves, | 100 00 |
| ordinary expenses, | 8000 00 |
| Overlaying of taxes, | 1506 03 |
| State tax, | 2560 00 |
| County tax, | 1642 31 |
| State aid, | 1518 73 |
| Corporation tax, | 501 05 |
| Bank tax, | 593 84 |
| Massachusetts school fund, | 255 26 |
| Dog licenses, | 211 39 |
| Auctioneer license, | 4 00 |
| Liquor licenses, | 150 00 |
| Discount on county tax, | 12 32 |
| Interest on taxes, | 599 39 |
| Interest on deposits, | 16 12 |
| Tuition, | 20 00 |
| Stone and loam sold, | 20 00 |
| Betterments, | 145 00 |
| Drain pipe sold, | 27 71 |
| Cash from town of Woburn, for support of Asahel Porter, | 137 00 |
| Due from town of Woburn for expense running line and bound stone, | 10 32 |
| Due from town of Wakefield for supplies for Abbie E. Oliver, | 128 14 |
| " " " " " " H. Walter Brown, | 88 39 |
| " " " Malden, " " Sarah L. Penney, | 57 15 |
| " " city of Springfield " " O. N. Wilder, | 15 00 |
| | $41284 15 |

## EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|---|---|
| Paid for schools, | $9426 61 |
| school incidentals, | 1611 64 |
| supplies at almshouse, | 637 29 |
| poor out of almshouse, | 1531 83 |
| expense connected with small pox, | 55 31 |
| town officers, | 1559 50 |
| town office, | 195 33 |
| AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD | $15017 51 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| AMOUNT BROUGHT FORWARD, | | $16017 61 |
| Paid for printing, | 221 81 | |
| public library, | 359 62 | |
| cemetery, | 258 03 | |
| land damage, | 1093 34 | |
| street lamps, | 536 00 | |
| repairs of highway, | 3031 91 | |
| extra highway work, | 1480 12 | |
| removing snow, | 163 63 | |
| building Summer street, | 1038 19 | |
| fire department, | 1634 57 | |
| repair of cistern, | 212 60 | |
| night watchman, | 67 50 | |
| abatement of taxes, | 307 05 | |
| miscellaneous expenses, | 114 88 | |
| damages and expenses in case of Cora E. Allen, | 606 50 | |
| " " " " George F. Cook, | 3276 87 | |
| expenses " Joseph Whittredge, | 89 70 | |
| decoration of soldiers' graves, | 100 00 | |
| state aid, | 1117 00 | |
| state tax, | 2560 00 | |
| county tax, | 1642 31 | |
| interest on town debt, | 4216 35 | |
| paid state 25 per cent on liquor licenses, | 37 50 | |
| | | $39173 99 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Total receipts, | $41284 15 |
| Total expenditures, | 39173 99 |
| Receipts more than expenses, | $2110 16 |

## VALUATION FOR 1875.

| | |
|---|---|
| Real estate, | $2,082,446 00 |
| Personal estate, | 284,572 00 |
| Total valuation, | $2,367,018 00 |
| Amount of taxes assessed in 1875, | $36,773 34 |

Rate of taxation for general tax, $13 50 on $1000.
" " " " highway tax, $1 10 on $1000.

Number of inhabitants according to census of 1875, 3186.

J. B. LEATHE,
J. L. PRATT,
JAMES REID,
} Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of the Poor and Board of Health.

*Dr.* **JAMES A. BANCROFT, Treasurer and Collector, in account with the Town of Reading.** *Cr.*

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| To Balance in Treasury, March 1, 1875, | | $11,684 92 | By Paying Selectmen's Orders, | | $30,717 83 |
| Cash of Town of Woburn for support of Asahel Porter, | | 137 00 | Town Debt, | | 10,000 00 |
| Corporation Tax, | | 501 05 | Interest on Debt, | | 4216 35 |
| National Bank Tax, | | 593 84 | State Tax, | | 2560 00 |
| School Fund, | | 255 26 | County Tax, | | 1642 31 |
| Dog License, | | 211 39 | State Treasurer Liquor License, | | 37 50 |
| Auctioneers Licenses, | | 4 00 | | | $49,173 99 |
| Liquor " | | 150 00 | | | |
| Interest on Taxes, | | 599 28 | Balance in Treas. of uncollected taxes, 1873, | $42 95 | |
| Interest on Deposits, | | 16 62 | " " " 1874, | 960 29 | |
| Discount on County Tax, | | 12 32 | " " " 1875, | 8737 04 | |
| State Aid, | | 1518 73 | J. Heselton's note, | 115 00 | |
| Hired Money, | | 8800 00 | Cash, | 2441 19 | |
| Tuition, | | 20 00 | | | $12,296 47 |
| Stone and Loam, | | 20 00 | | | |
| Drain Pipe, | | 27 71 | | | $61,470 46 |
| Betterments, | | 145 00 | | | |
| Tax List for Collection, | | 36,773 34 | | | |
| | | $61,470 46 | | | |

READING, March 15, 1876.

JAMES A. BANCROFT, TREASURER AND COLLECTOR.

# Auditor's Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1876.

## LIABILITIES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Town notes, | $66,175 00 | |
| Interest March 1, 1876, | 1185 55 | |
| | | $67,360 55 |
| Due fire department, | 1000 00 | |
| Miscellaneous debts, | 300 00 | |
| | | $1300 00 |
| | | $68,660 55 |

## AVAILABLE ASSETS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| J. Heselton's note, | $115 00 | |
| Unpaid taxes, | 9740 28 | |
| Due from the State, | 1295 00 | |
| Cash in treasury, | 2441 19 | |
| | | $13,591 47 |
| Net debt, | | $55,069 08 |

## SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Town farm, | $4000 00 | |
| Personal property at town farm, | 2448 81 | |
| | | $6448 81 |
| Cemetery, land and lots, | $2500 00 | |
| Hearse, | 125 00 | |
| Hearse house, | 75 00 | |
| | | $2690 00 |
| Eagle engine and hose carriage, | $700 00 | |
| Eagle engine house, | 500 00 | |
| Hancock engine and hose carriage, | 500 00 | |
| Hancock engine house, | 1800 00 | |
| Washington engine, | 200 00 | |
| Washington engine house, | 40 00 | |
| Union engine, | 50 00 | |
| Hook and ladder carriage, &c., | 400 00 | |
| Hook and ladder house, | 80 00 | |
| Furniture and hose, | 1750 00 | |
| | | $6020 00 |
| AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD, | | $15,158 81 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amount Brought Forward, | | | $15,158 81 |
| Furniture in town office, | | | $400 00 |
| School houses and furniture, | $35,000 00 | | |
| Public library and furniture, | 2200 00 | | |
| Piano and apparatus in high school, | 600 00 | | |
| | | $37,800 00 | |
| | | | $53,358 81 |

We have examined the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer for the year ending March 1, 1876, and find the same correct and supported by the proper vouchers.

FRANCIS BARTLEY,
FREDERICK BANCROFT,
WILLIAM PROCTOR,
} Auditors.

Reading, March 18, 1876.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# BOARD OF ENGINEERS

OF THE

## Reading Fire Department.

*To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of Reading:—*

There has been no change in the organization of the Fire Department during the past year, except in the case of the small engine located on Ash street. In our last report we informed you that it was manned by a company of volunteers. Since then that company has voluntarily dissolved, and it now remains without a company. All the apparatus in the department is in good condition and ready for immediate use. There will, in our opinion, be no extraordinary expense the ensuing year, except, perhaps, the painting of the engine house on Union street. In our last report we recommended (in view of the general depression of business and a demand on the part of our citizens for retrenchment) a reduction of the appropriation for this department to seventeen hundred dollars, two thousand having been appropriated for the two preceding years. The town adopted our recommendation and we find that it has been sufficient, and a balance remains unexpended. We have not been so fortunate in regard to fires as last year. The first alarm of fire was on July 22nd., caused by the burning of woods in the vicinity of hundred acre meadow; loss not ascertained. Oct. 27th., at 1.45 A. M., the mill on Pearl street owned by S. A. Parker, and occupied by him and Alden Batchelder as a cabinet manufactory, was discovered to be on fire, and before the department could reach it, it was completely enveloped in flames, and the building and contents were entirely destroyed, but a large shop and stock sheds adjoining were saved. The department of Wakefield received the alarm and one engine and a hook and ladder carriage were present from that town, and rendered good service. The loss by the fire was estimated by the owners at

$10,000, on which there was an insurance of $2500. Nov. 9th., at 11 A. M., the department were called out by a fire in the dwelling house of Etson Damon on Parker Street, which was speedily extinguished; loss $100, no insurance. On or about the 15th. of February it was discovered that a diabolical attempt had been made to fire the Lyceum Hall building by lighting a lot of paper and placing it in a wood closet in the second story. This is the second attempt to fire that building within the last three years. The annual parade of the department took place on the 15th. of September, and a general invitation was extended to all the inhabitants to participate, many of whom responded. We think that the annual parade is beneficial to the department, and a satisfaction to the citizens, and recommend that they be continued. The expenses of the department the past year have been as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid members of Fire Department for the year ending May 1 1875, | $1267 | 33 |
| Chas H. Lang, for services as Chief Engineer to May 1 1875, | 25 | 00 |
| H. E. Cox, " Asst. " " | 12 | 00 |
| E. C. Nichols, " " " " | 12 | 00 |
| David Crowell, " " " " | 12 | 00 |
| Chas. H. Danforth, " " " " | 17 | 00 |
| C. C. Cummings, for services as steward of Eagle Co. to May 1, 1875, | 60 | 00 |
| C. C. Cummings, for services as steward of Eagle Co. from May 1 to Nov. 1, 1875, | 30 | 00 |
| E. E. Smith, for services as steward of Hancock Co., | 12 | 00 |
| William Vermeil, for services as steward of Hook & Ladder Co., | 5 | 00 |
| C. H. Danforth, appropriation for annual parade, | 100 | 00 |
| C. H. Lang, sundries for department, | 4 | 85 |
| Hayward & Allen, sundries for Hancock Engine House, | 2 | 21 |
| John A. Blunt, for repairs, | 4 | 67 |
| Geo. W. Atkinson, for sundries, | 3 | 11 |
| Salina A. Gould, for sundries, | 5 | 14 |
| C. H. Danforth, broom and oiling hose, | 2 | 35 |
| Whiton, Brother & Co., for rope, | 3 | 45 |
| Hunneman & Co., for repairs on Eagle Engine and hose, | 8 | 00 |
| E. A. Foss, for services as fireman, | 5 | 00 |
| J. C. Cook, setting glass, | 2 | 10 |
| Bancroft & Temple, coal for Hancock Co., | 4 | 50 |
| C. A. Mellen, for watching fire at Great Island, | 2 | 00 |
| J. F. Williams, " " " " | 2 | 00 |
| Chas. C. Frost, " " " " | 2 | 00 |
| Henry Batchelder, " " " " | 2 | 00 |
| AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD, | | $1605 71 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amounts Brought Forward, | $1605 71 | |
| Paid Chas. C. Frost, for refreshments, | 70 | |
| Parker & Stone, refreshments at fire at S. A. Parker's Mill | 7 63 | |
| Geo. W. Atkinson, " " " " " | 14 70 | |
| Geo. Robinson, for services as fireman to March 1, 1875, | 5 83 | |
| | | $1634 57 |
| Amount unexpended, | | $65 43 |
| Amount appropriated, | | $1700 00 |

In concluding our report we wish to impress on the minds of our citizens the necessity of fostering and encouraging our fire department, the members of which, for a paltry sum, hold themselves in readiness at all times, day or night, in sunshine or storm, heat or cold, to rally for the defence of our property and homes against the attacks of the devouring element. We recommend that the town appropriate for the expense of the department the ensuing year, the sum of seventeen hundred ($1700 00) dollars. One hundred dollars of which shall be used for defraying the expense of the annual fall parade.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

CHARLES H. LANG, Chief Engineer,

E. C. NICHOLS,
D. CROWELL,
C. H. DANFORTH,
J. W. SPOKESFIELD. } Assistants.

C. H. DANFORTH, Clerk.

Reading, March 15, 1876.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# Trustees of the Public Library.

The Trustees of the Public Library have little to report, as the moneys committed to their trust have only served to pay the current expenses of their department, leaving none to be used for the purchase of books. The Librarian, Miss Alice B. Temple, reports donations of books since August 5, 1874, as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| From Daniel F. Pratt, | 1 vol. | |
| State of Massachusetts, | 18 " | |
| Hon. E. R. Hoar, | 24 " | |
| Anna E. Appleton, | 4 " | |
| Edward Appleton, | 2 " | |
| H. C. Gray, | 1 " | |
| Town of Lexington, | 1 " | |
| Mrs. Henry A. Perkins, | 26 " | |
| Thomas Sweetser, Esq., | 3 " | |
| Other sources, | 4 " | |
| Total number of additions, | | 84 volumes |
| Number at re-opening August, 1874, | | 3636 |
| Total, | | 3720 |
| Loss by wear, | | 15 |
| Whole number, including duplicates, | | 3705 |
| Number volumes in circulation during the year ending July 3, 1875, | | 16,935 |
| Increase over 1874, | | 1101 |
| Received since Jan. 1, 1876, from Hon. C. L. Flint, Secretary Board of Agriculture, | | 87 |
| Pamphlets, | | 10 |
| Fines collected during the year, | $68 08 | |

The Librarian also reports that due care does not appear to be taken by some of the patrons of the Library in using their books. The bindings are broken and leaves torn and defaced

by pencil marks. Constant effort is made to detect and punish the offenders by fine, but it is feared that some of the guilty escape. Parents should see to it that their children are taught to use special care while in possession of a book, that it may be returned in as good order as when taken from the Library.

The Librarian speaks in terms of commendation of the good order maintained in the Library by those in attendance, especially the boys and young men. No case of suspension or discipline has occurred during the year.

The Treasurer reports as follows :

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Balance from 1874, | $24 01 | |
| Received from Town Treasurer cash, | 139 23 | |
| " " Dog tax, | 211 39 | |
| " catalogues sold by Librarian, | 9 40 | |
| " sundries " " | 1 35 | |
| " fines to balance account, | 43 14 | |
| | | $428 52 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid A. R. Gay for blank books, etc., | $21 00 | |
| H. G. Terry for binding books, | 87 15 | |
| subscriptions for papers, | 4 70 | |
| insurance on Library, | 36 25 | |
| rent of room, | 150 00 | |
| express charges, | 4 10 | |
| incidentals, | 1 90 | |
| salary of Librarian to July 3, 1875, | 83 42 | |
| for repairing books, etc., | 15 00 | |
| for extra work, etc., | 25 00 | |
| | | $428 52 |

Through some oversight, no article was put in the warrant for the last annual town meeting in reference to an appropriation for the Library. The Selectmen, however, stated to the Trustees that they included in their estimate for general expenses allowed by the town, four hundred dollars for the Library. Of this we have received, in addition to the dog tax, $139 23 ; the dog tax, as the Trustees understand the vote of the town, being appropriated to the Library until otherwise ordered. In consequence of the want of the usual appropriation, the Trustees have not felt authorized to purchase any new books the past

year, and consequently, since the re-opening of the Library last summer, there has been less interest felt in it, and the circulation of books has somewhat diminished. Now in the present hard times, the Trustees are fully aware of the importance of retrenchment and economy in all the town expenses, and if the town think they cannot afford an appropriation for the purchase of new books, the Trustees have not a word of remonstrance to make; they merely wish that the cause of any falling off of interest in the Library among those who are in the habit of using it should be understood. The current expenses the past year have been kept as low as they can be. Books will wear out and must occasionally be rebound. All publishers, without any exception, that the Trustees have been able to discover, are too careless about the binding of their books, and too many of them print on paper which has no strength to it, being made of material which has been used over and over again and is nothing but shoddy. Add to these faults in the original manufacture, the careless handling of many who use the books, and it is a wonder we get as much service from them as we do.

The Trustees whose term of office expires at this time are William Proctor and Hiram Barrus.

EDWARD APPLETON, Chairman,

STEPHEN FOSTER,
F. O. DEWEY,
F. H. KNIGHT,
WILLIAM PROCTOR,
HIRAM BARRUS,

Trustees of Public Library.

# Report of Cemetery Committee.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Due the Committee on last years account, | $10 13 | |
| Paid for labor in the cemetery, | 293 42 | |
| share of expense of building fence adjoining land of C. W. Cummings, | 26 48 | |
| | | $330 03 |
| Amount drawn from the town appropriations, | $258 03 | |
| Received from sale of lots, | 72 00 | |
| | | $330 03 |

F. O. DEWEY,
F. H. KNIGHT,
G. C GLEASON,
W. S. RICHARDSON,
T. B. PRATT,
S. BANCROFT,
} COMMITTEE.

READING, March, 1876.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

The Road Commissioners of Reading respectfully submit the following report:

We think the condition of the highways have been improved since making our last report. In many places we find the traveled part of the roads very narrow, and to make them so that teams can pass with safety, we have to grade wider than has been the practice in years past. Owing to the scarcity of good material for roads, especially in the vicinity of the village, the cost of repairs is much more than it otherwise would be. On account of dangerous places on Lowell street, we went to an extra expense of one hundred dollars. The hills on Haverhill and West streets were in such condition that we thought it for the best interests of the town to lay out more than the ordinary repairs, and a permanent work, instead of having it to repair again in course of two or three years. Highland and South streets are nearly complete. Summer street is not yet finished, but we think the balance of the appropriation will complete the work.

The annual large expenditures for bound stone, was occasioned by the establishing of the lines on Main and Lowell streets, by the County Commissioners.

The bridge on Main street in the north part of the town needs several new covering stones, also several smaller ones need lengthening and others relaying, and we would recommend raising the sum of five hundred dollars for that purpose. For ordinary repairs, we think the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars should be appropriated.

The expenses under our control have been as follows, and the money has been paid to the following persons:

## FOR ORDINARY REPAIRS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Paid Asa Parker, | for labor | | $155 68 |
| Albert Janes, | " | | 51 02 |
| Bradley Bancroft, | " | | 104 60 |
| Bancroft & Temple, | " | | 16 07 |
| B. Whelton, | " | | 24 85 |
| Charles A. Weston, | " | | 202 60 |
| Daniel Burnham, | " | | 44 81 |
| Daniel M. Burnham, | " | | 38 44 |
| Francis J. Bancroft, | " | | 52 68 |
| Francis Clark, | " | | 33 95 |
| Daniel Sullivan, | " | | 79 96 |
| John Mellen, | " | | 83 01 |
| O. A. Swain | " | | 103 00 |
| R. A. Harmon, | " | | 131 24 |
| P. Barrett, | " | | 100 50 |
| James Wilson, | " | | 2 00 |
| James M. Eames, | " | | 18 15 |
| George Beasley, | " | | 224 63 |
| Emerson Smith, | " | | 89 60 |
| Timothy Rierdon, | " | | 108 26 |
| James Sullivan, | " | | 48 90 |
| William L. Jones, | " | | 40 25 |
| George H. Daland, | " | | 3 00 |
| Clarence Nichols, | " | | 3 50 |
| T. A. Evans, | " | | 2 00 |
| N. O. Bunker, | " | | 29 75 |
| C. H. Moulton, | " | | 34 77 |
| Warren Hayward, | " | | 3 50 |
| D. W. Pratt, | " | | 7 00 |
| H. Smith, | " | | 7 00 |
| H. S. Buck, | " | | 7 12 |
| A. F. Emerson, | " | | 25 00 |
| J. L. Pratt, | " | | 9 25 |
| A. P. Pratt, | " | | 2 00 |
| N. H. Turner, | " | | 17 50 |
| William Frost, | " | | 11 20 |
| D. P. Babb, | " | | 26 30 |
| J. S. Wyatt, | " | | 3 32 |
| Michael Forbes, | " | | 51 62 |
| AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD, | | | $1998 03 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amount Brought Forward, | | $1998 03 | |
| Paid David Crowell, | for labor | 17 25 | |
| William Robinson, | " | 1 00 | |
| Alexander Nelson, | " | 96 58 | |
| E. C. Jones, | " | 14 00 | |
| Howard Batchelder, | " | 72 10 | |
| W. G. Nichols, | " | 40 55 | |
| O. G. Batchelder, | " | 7 00 | |
| Silas G. Emerson, | " | 15 00 | |
| Luther Nichols, | " | 11 25 | |
| William LaClair, | " | 60 00 | |
| H. P. Pratt, | " | 21 00 | |
| William Bunker, | " | 10 49 | |
| Albert Nichols, | " | 82 00 | |
| William Holmes, | " | 13 00 | |
| Charles Wakefield, | " | 5 88 | |
| W. K. Pratt, | " | 1 00 | |
| M. F. Gould, | " | 5 40 | |
| Henry S. LaClair, | " | 371 67 | |
| R. C. Totten, | " repairing tools, | 10 30 | |
| T. F. Gould, | " " " | 21 87 | |
| J. A. Blunt, | " " " | 1 38 | |
| Lynnfield Granite Co., for covering stone, | | 4 37 | |
| R. D. Wilkins, | " " " | 11 15 | |
| J. Driscoll, for labor in 1874, | | 6 00 | |
| William M. Phillips, labor, | | 1 50 | |
| | | | $2899 77 |
| Thomas P. Eames, for gravel, | | 6 87 | |
| Albert Nichols, | " " | 14 40 | |
| James H. Bancroft, | " " | 6 39 | |
| A. G. R. Hale, | " " and stone, | 5 12 | |
| H. M. Richardson, | " " | 1 25 | |
| G. R. Turner, | " " | 9 65 | |
| Emily Ruggles, | " " | 26 60 | |
| William Porter, | " " | 35 60 | |
| Milton D. Parker, | " " | 17 30 | |
| Charles W. Kelley, | " " | 8 96 | |
| | | | $132 14 |
| | | | $3031 91 |
| Credit by cash received for stone, | | | 3 00 |
| Net cost, | | | $3028 91 |

## REDUCING GRADE OF HILL ON WEST STREET.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Paid Asa Parker, | for labor, | 26 00 | |
| Albert Janes, | " | 10 00 | |
| Bradley Bancroft, | " | 20 00 | |
| Charles A. Weston, | " | 38 00 | |
| Daniel Burnham, | " | 9 00 | |
| Daniel M. Burnham, | " | 8 00 | |
| John Mellen, | " | 16 00 | |
| O. A. Swain, | " | 19 00 | |
| R. A. Harmon, | " | 26 00 | |
| P. Barrett, | " | 19 00 | |
| Thomas P. Eames, | " | 9 00 | |
| | | | $200 00 |

## WIDENING LOWELL STREET.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Paid Albert Janes, | for labor, | 6 00 | |
| Bradley Bancroft, | " | 12 00 | |
| Charles A. Weston, | " | 22 00 | |
| Daniel Burnham, | " | 5 50 | |
| Daniel M. Burnham, | " | 5 00 | |
| John Mellen, | " | 10 00 | |
| O. A. Swain, | " | 11 00 | |
| R. A. Harmon, | " | 16 00 | |
| P. Barrett, | " | 12 50 | |
| | | | $100 00 |

## REDUCING GRADE OF HAVERHILL STREET.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Paid Daniel Sullivan, | for labor, | 5 00 | |
| George Beasley, | " | 15 00 | |
| Emerson Smith, | " | 10 00 | |
| Timothy Rierdon, | " | 10 00 | |
| James Sullivan, | " | 5 00 | |
| D. W. Pratt, | " | 7 00 | |
| H Smith, | " | 7 00 | |
| H. S. Buck, | " | 6 00 | |
| A. F. Emerson, | " | 24 00 | |
| J. L. Pratt, | " | 10 00 | |
| A. P. Pratt, | " | 1 00 | |
| | | | $100 00 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid R. M. Boyce, on account of Woburn street wall, | 48 00 | |
| Charles H. Moulton, for widening Temple street, | 30 00 | |
| Michael Forbes, moving wall on High street, | 13 31 | |
| R. B. Nichols, for relaying drain on Franklin street, | 25 00 | |
| | | $116 31 |

## RAILING STREETS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Bancroft & Temple, for labor and material, | 11 61 | |
| Daniel Creesey, for labor, | 3 75 | |
| Charles A. Weston, for labor, | 6 10 | |
| M. A. Stone, for material, | 12 | |
| S. Martin, for material, | 65 | |
| G. H. Porter, for posts on Walnut street, in 1874, | 8 50 | |
| George Beasley, for labor, | 1 00 | |
| J. L. Pratt, for rails, | 4 00 | |
| Albert Nichols, for labor, | 8 00 | |
| Henry S. LaClair, for labor, | 12 37 | |
| Benjamin Buck, for posts, | 21 00 | |
| J. F. Williams, for posts on Mt. Vernon street, in 1873, | 14 00 | |
| | | $91 10 |
| Credit by 90 posts on hand, | | 18 00 |
| Net cost, | | $73 10 |

## RELAYING MAIN STREET CULVERT.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Alexander Nelson, for labor, | 10 00 | |
| Albert Nichols, " | 12 00 | |
| Henry S. LaClair, " | 18 85 | |
| N. W. C. Carter, for material, | 10 06 | |
| | | $50 91 |

## BUILDING HIGH STREET CULVERT.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid P. Barrett, for labor, | 10 60 | |
| James M. Eames, " | 5 00 | |
| George Beasley, " | 17 50 | |
| William LaClair, " | 10 20 | |
| William Bunker, " | 9 60 | |
| Henry S. LaClair, " | 30 64 | |
| Lynnfield Granite Co., for covering stone, | 62 00 | |
| | | $145 54 |
| Due from M. J. Greenwood, | | 55 35 |
| Net cost, | | $90 19 |

## BUILDING SOUTH STREET.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Paid Asa Parker, | for labor, | | | 29 01 | |
| Bradley Bancroft, | " | | | 17 60 | |
| Charles A. Weston, | " | | | 25 20 | |
| Francis J. Bancroft, | " | | | 22 04 | |
| Darwin Bruce, | " | | | 70 | |
| Francis Clark, | " | | | 11 02 | |
| A. H. Johnson, | " | | | 1 00 | |
| S. M. Pratt, | " | | | 9 44 | |
| John Mellen, | " | | | 11 02 | |
| O. A. Swain, | " | | | 13 40 | |
| G. H. Porter, | " | | | 17 14 | |
| P. Barrett, | " | | | 10 80 | |
| Joseph Marshall, 2d, | " | | | 34 42 | |
| | | | | | $202 79 |

## BUILDING HIGHLAND STREET.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Asa Parker, | for labor, | | 18 58 | |
| Chas. A. Weston, | " | | 26 10 | |
| Francis Clark, | " | | 3 86 | |
| John Mellen, | " | | 5 43 | |
| O. A. Swain, | " | | 80 | |
| P. Barrett, | " | | 6 20 | |
| James M. Eames, | " | | 10 79 | |
| George Beasley, | " | | 57 75 | |
| H. Sullivan, | " | | 11 87 | |
| Frank Veo, | " | | 5 25 | |
| William Frost, | " | | 23 62 | |
| | | | | 170 25 |
| Credit by cash for stone and loam, | | | | 17 00 |
| Net cost, | | | | $153 25 |

## BOUND STONE.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Paid P. Barrett, | for labor, | | 10 00 | |
| George Beasley, | " | | 9 75 | |
| Emerson Smith, | " | | 10 00 | |
| H. Kummer, | " | | 1 58 | |
| Timothy Rierdon, | " | | 12 45 | |
| Henry S. LaClair, | " | | 3 60 | |
| Lynnfield Granite Co., | for stone, | | 25 20 | |
| | AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD, | | | $72 58 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount Brought Forward, | $72 58 | |
| Paid R. D. Wilkins, for stone, | 11 20 | |
| | | $83 78 |
| Credit by stone on hand, | | 15 68 |
| Net cost, | | $68 10 |

## TOOLS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Dodge, Gilbert & Co., for crow-bar, | 2 80 | |
| J. Breck & Son, for pick handles, | 3 00 | |
| Thomas P. Eames, for machine for hoisting rocks, | 35 00 | |
| Bancroft & Temple, for lumber, | 80 | |
| Kendall Richardson, for lumber, | 50 | |
| | $42 10 | |
| Tools on hand March 1, 1875, | 36 50 | |
| | | $78 60 |
| Credit by tools on hand March 1, 1876, | | 68 50 |
| Net cost, | | $30 10 |

## DRAIN PIPE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Waldo Brothers, | 82 72 | |
| S. N. Stone, | 18 22 | |
| | $100 94 | |
| Pipe on hand March 1, 1875, | 9 20 | |
| | | $110 14 |
| Credit by pipe on hand March 1, 1876, | 10 14 | |
| cash received of Mrs. B. M. Whitredge for pipe, | 11 88 | |
| cash received of Rufus B. Wright for pipe, | 15 83 | |
| | | $37 85 |
| Net cost, | | $72 29 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid R. D. Wilkins, for curbstones for corners of streets to protect lamp-posts, | $33 75 | |
| Ames Gowing, for moving rock on Hopkins street, | 10 00 | |
| Cumming's Express, for teaming, | 12 65 | |
| Solon Bancroft, for searching records in 1872, | 5 00 | |
| James A. Bancroft, for surveying Willow street, | 15 00 | |
| | | $76 40 |

## SUMMER STREET.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Paid Charles H. Moulton, on account of contract, | - | $1000 00 | |
| " " extra work, | - | 18 40 | |
| Waldo Brothers, for drain pipe, | - | 9 72 | |
| Bancroft & Temple, for lumber, | - | 2 07 | |
| W. W. Davis, for leveling, | - | 8 00 | |
| | | | $1038 19 |

## REMOVING SNOW.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Paid Charles A. Weston, | for labor, 1874–5, | $37 25 | |
| James Wilson, | " " | 12 60 | |
| O. A. Swain, | " " | 8 80 | |
| James M. Eames, | " " | 1 00 | |
| Willie A. Bancroft, | " " | 1 20 | |
| Henry S. LaClair, | " " | 21 65 | |
| R. M. Boyce, | " " | 1 00 | |
| George Beasley, | " to March 1, 1876, | 18 00 | |
| W. G. Nichols, | " 1874–5, | 6 00 | |
| Charles H. Moulton, | " " | 15 80 | |
| David Crowell, | " " | 4 50 | |
| M. F. Gould, | " " | 4 00 | |
| Charles Wakefield, | " " | 7 33 | |
| William L. Jones, | " " | 4 00 | |
| R. B. Nichols, | " " | 20 50 | |
| | | | $163 63 |

JAMES A. BANCROFT,
CHARLES A. WESTON,
HENRY S. LA CLAIR,
} Road Commissioners of Reading.

Errata.—In the second paragraph, 27th page, twelfth line, read, and "do" permanent work, instead of, and "a" permanent work; third paragraph, same page, read, The "unusual" large expenditures, instead of, The "annual" large expenditures.

# NAMES AND LOCATION OF STREETS AND PRIVATE WAYS.

Ash, from Lowell st., by G. W. Grouard's, Post office and E. M. Remick's, to Wakefield.

Avon, from Ash st., at E. M. Remick's, to Main st.

Bancroft ave., from Mt. Vernon st., at Amos Temple's, across Lowell st., to Highland st.

Bancroft (Private), from High st, north of J. W. Manning's.

Belmont, from Salem, opp. W. W. Ruggles', to Orange st.

Brook, from Ash, at Randall & Ricker's, to Summer st.

Charles, from Main st., opp. Cemetery, by John Wakefield's Est., to Haverhill st.

Chute, from Mt. Vernon st., at W. H. Willcox's, to Depot.

Centre ave., from Minot st. to Maple st.

Colby (Private), from High st., north of J. W. Manning's.

Cross, from Main, at Geo. Swan's Est., to Ash.

Eaton, from Salem st., at Geo. B. Mitchell's, to Pleasant st.

Elliott, from Parker st., at L. Elliott's, to Green st.

Federal, from Main, at T. Jeffrey's, to Highland st.

Forest, from Grove st., by Amos Flint's, to Pearl st.

Franklin, from Grove st., by George Parker's and H. Batchelder's Est., to Haverhill st.

Fremont, from Prospect st., at John H. Bancroft's, to West st.

Fulton, from Washington, at Kirk Sweetser's, to Lincoln st.

Green, from High st., at Depot, across Main to John st.

Grove, from Lowell st., by J. H. Bancroft's and A. J. Francis', to Wilmington.

Gould, from Ash st., at R. C. Totten's, to Haven st.

Haven, from Ash st., at Lyceum Hall, to Depot.

Haverhill, from Wakefield line, by J. L. Pratt's, to North Reading.

High, from Washington st., by the Depot and J. W. Manning's, to Lowell st.

Highland, from Lowell st., at F. Wakefield's, to Bancroft ave.

Hopkins, from Walnut st., near W. S. Parker's, by B. McAllister's, to Wakefield.

John, from Salem, at C. Temple's Est., by Richard Robinson's, to Wakefield.

Lincoln, from Woburn st., past Depot, to Washington st.

Linden, from Haven, at John Adden's, to Lowell st.

Lowell, from Main at Common, by E. Bancroft's Est., over R. R. Bridge to Wilmington.

Locust (Private), from Main, north of Milo Parker's, to Highland st.

Main, from Stoneham, through the village to North Reading.

Maple, from Warren ave. to Centre ave.

Manning, from Salem st. to Pleasant st.

Middle, from Pleasant st. to Union st.

Mill, from Main st., by J. N. Sanborn's, to Lob's Pond Mill at North Reading.

Minot, from Main, opp. A. A. Sawyer's, by S. M. Hall's, to Washington st.

Mount Vernon, from Linden st., by Amos Temple's, to High st.
Oak, from West st., by J. M. Eames', to Summer st.
Orange, from Pearl st., by F. Miller's, to Winter st.
Parker, from Pleasant st., by L. Elliott's, to John st.
Pearl, from Salem st., by Town Farm, A. Nichols', W. W. Davis' and Silas G. Emerson's, to Main st.
Pine, from Salem st. to Haverhill st.
Pierce, from Salem st., at Jacob Graves', to Orange st.
Pleasant, from the Common, at Bank Building, by S. P. Pratt's, to Manning st.
Prescott, from Summer st., at G. A. Coggins', to Depot.
Prospect, from Woburn st., at Bradley Bancroft's, to Fremont st.
Salem, from the Common, by Baptist Church, to Wakefield.
Short, from Mill st., at J. N. Sanborn's, to Main st.
Sanborn, from Haven st., by Bethesda Church, to Lowell st.
South, from West st., by H. J. Nelson's and W. F. Paul's, to Wakefield.
Spring, from Salem st., at Osgood Eaton's, to Orange st.
Summer, from West, by Oscar Foote's, S. E. Parker's and E. White's, to Wakefield.
Temple, from Woburn, at Nathan Bancroft's, by M. M. Temple's, to Summer st.
Union, from the Common, by H. E. Cox's, to John st.
Village, from Parker st., by Walter Rayner's, to John st.
Wakefield, from Pearl st., by Charles Wakefield's, to Haverhill st.
Walnut, from Summer st., by W. S. Parker's, to Woburn line.
Washington, from railroad north of Wendall Bancroft's, by S. T. Sweetser's and W. M. Weston's, to Village st.
West, from Wilmington line, through west part of the town, by J. B. Leathe's, to Woburn line.
Willow, from Lowell st., by Geo. R. Turner's, to West st.
Winter (Private), from Salem st., by Geo. W. Morse's, to Orange st.
Woburn, from Main st., by Bethesda Church, to West st.
Warren ave., from Minot st. past Maple st.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

# TOWN OF READING,

FOR THE YEAR 1875—76.

# REPORT.

The School Committee for the year 1875–6 organized at the beginning of the year by the choice of Carroll D. Wright as Chairman and Horace G. Wadlin as Secretary, and the appointment of various sub-committees, so arranged that each member of the Board, with a single associate, should have the special care of two or three schools. By adopting this method of apportioning the labors of the Board, we have been able to obtain a better insight into the condition and needs of the various schools, than was possible otherwise, with the limited amount of time which we have been able to devote to the duties devolving upon us. The School Committee must necessarily rely mainly upon their own personal observation and study for the information concerning each school and teacher, upon which any action concerning such school or teacher must be based, but there are many things which cannot be seen at a chance visit which have a powerful influence upon the welfare of a school. Such matters may often become of public notoriety before any member of the Board has a suspicion of their existence. We would therefore suggest to those interested, a little more readiness in placing in the possession of those whom they have chosen to act as their agents, any information which will aid them to act understandingly. A fault which, if discovered in season, might be quietly corrected, may often be allowed to become an evil of most serious proportions, through the indifference or the injudicious reporting of those observing it. We are pleased to be able to report that nearly all our schools are in a very satisfactory condition and provided with good instructors, some of the best of whom graduated from our own High School since it has been under its present management.

In compliance with the vote of the town passed at the last annual meeting, special instruction in music was discontinued at the end of the spring term, the contract with the teacher of music terminating at that time. There seems to be a very

general desire on the part of those most immediately interested, — pupils and parents, — that such instruction be resumed. We believe that the best educators are unanimous in the opinion that the benefits derived from varying the routine of the school-room with musical exercises, judiciously conducted, are very great. We would recommend that a slight provision be made in the annual appropriation for the purpose of supplying the needed instruction. The salary of the Principal of the Upper Grammar School was reduced at the beginning of the year, and at the opening of the fall term all the salaries were fixed at the rates shown in the accompanying tabular statement. The length of the school year was increased to thirty-nine weeks, so that in the case of every teacher there has been a reduction of the wages per week. Though some changes in the rates of compensation of the teachers may be desirable, we do not think that there can be much, if any, reduction in the average rates for the coming year, if we would keep up the efficiency of our schools.

Before the close of the spring term, Dr. Hunt resigned his position as a member of the Committee, having accepted the position of Superintendent of the public schools of Portland, Maine. Mr. Jeremiah C. Cook was chosen to fill the vacancy thus made, for the remainder of the year. During the summer vacation the partition on the first floor of the High School building was moved so as to make two rooms of equal size in place of the large room and recitation room. Some needed repairs were also made upon the school houses and outbuildings, all of which seemed to be required in the interest of true economy. We regret that it was necessary to exceed the appropriation made for incidental school expenses, and submit to the judgment of the town the question whether or not the money has been judiciously used.

A circular has been received from the Board of Education calling special attention to the statute requiring Drawing to be taught in all the public schools. The Committee, in the course of study which they have prepared, provide for instruction in Drawing to the extent of the requirements of the law, so far as they apply to towns of the size of our own, and we believe that it may be made very useful as an aid to the acquirement of other

branches pursued in our schools. There has been no call for the special instruction in industrial or mechanical drawings allowed by the statute.

It is not the general purpose of our school system to prepare pupils for any particular occupation in life, but to give that culture which will be most beneficial to the recipient in all his various relations as a citizen under our system of government, taking care to debar none by an exclusive or one-sided education from seeking any position in life with perfect freedom.

It is in this respect that our school system has its chief advantage over that generally adopted in the German States, where each pupil is required to pay a tuition fee, and a low rate is fixed for those schools where the branches are taught which the government is willing the mass of the people should learn, and a higher rate for those schools which are designed for the special benefit of the more favored classes. In Berlin a few years ago, it was found that the poorer classes were encroaching upon the educational domain of their superiors, and to prevent it the expedient was adopted of raising the tuition for the exclusive schools, and lowering it for the others.

Among us it may sometimes happen that a public opinion may be created, which by its influence in determining the work that shall be done in the school-rooms, has the same practical effect upon those of limited means as the measures above indicated. In laying out the school work for our children, it seems of first importance that we should provide that the education of that large class who must leave school at the age of from twelve to fourteen years, should be as complete as possible. This we think, will be accomplished by the adoption of the course of instruction prepared the present year, with such modifications as experience may suggest. After entering the High School, if a pupil has his plan for life marked out, we should allow him to pursue such a course as will aid him most in his purpose, so far as it can be done consistently with the general good of the school.

In this connection the question may be raised whether we are not discriminating against those who propose to take a collegiate course.

We would not enter into the discussion of the question of the comparative merits of the different systems of higher education. All have their champions, and to a certain extent, each has its turn of popular favor.

We do not introduce this subject, with the expectation that any action will be taken upon it, but, as there is a desire on the part of some of our pupils to take a thorough preparatory classical course in our own schools, we mention it as a matter which has demanded the consideration of the Committee, and will present itself for future committees to discuss and decide.

A very valuable collection of minerals from Colorado has been presented to the High School, by Charles H. Sweetser, Esq., formerly a citizen of this place.

The class of 1875 was the largest ever graduating from the High School, and consisted of the following members, viz:—

Evelyn Cleveland Bancroft.
Mabelle Idelle Barden.
Alice Barrows.
Lilian Frances Cummings.
Vestina Parker Converse.
Arthur Albert Damon.
Ada Louise Elliott.
Luther Forrester Elliott.
Fred. Gerritson.
Henry Eugene Holden.
Loea Parker Howard.
Abbott Nelson Hutchins.
Lawrence Bertram Loring.
Gertrude Russell Lovejoy.
Jennie Temple Lovejoy.
Jessie Elroy Macdonald.
George Augustine Manning.
Mary Anne Marshall.
Fred. Howard Morton.
Lizzie Annette Nash.
Clarence Julian Nichols.
Justin Lawrence Parker.
Benjamin Smith,
Florence Amelia Titus.
Helen Amelia Whiting.
Sumner Alcibiades Whittier.

The exercises at the closing exhibition showed evidence of very careful preparation, and were very creditable to those who participated in them. The Valedictory given by F. H. Morton, consisted mainly of a Review of the career of the late Senator Sumner, which brought into special prominence the moral greatness of the man.

The diplomas were presented in a very happy manner by Hon. George B. Loring, President of the Massachusetts Senate.

The class left behind them as a testimonial of their regard for the school, a valuable book-case.

Unless circumstances admit of the union of some of the smaller schools, we do not see how we can make much of a re-

duction of the school expenses. We would recommend that the sum of ninety-five hundred dollars be appropriated for the support of the schools, and the sum of fifteen hundred dollars for the incidental expenses. We annex statements in detail of the statistics and expenses of the schools. Three vacancies in the Board are to be filled at the annual meeting, the terms of Messrs. Barrus, Wadlin and Cook expiring with the present year.

Respectfully submitted,

CARROLL D. WRIGHT,
SOLON BANCROFT,
WALTER S. PARKER,
JEREMIAH C. COOK,
HIRAM BARRUS,
HORACE G. WADLIN,
} COMMITTEE.

READING, March, 1876.

## STATISTICS OF SCHOOLS.

| Names of Schools. | Teachers. | Sal. per year. | No. of Scholars | | | Av'ge Attend'ce | | | Under 5. | Over 15 years | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1st term. | 2d term... | 3d term... | 1st term. | 2d term... | 3d term... | | 1st term... | 2d term... | 3d term... |
| High School | Cyrus A. Cole, Prin'l | $1800 | 71 | 80 | 73 | 68 | 74 | 70 | | 59 | 50 | 52 |
| | Miss Martha Keith, Ass't | 700 | | | | | | | | | | |
| First Grammar | Ida M. Daniels | 500 | 62 | 49 | 39 | 58 | 36 | 35 | | 21 | 13 | 21 |
| Second Grammar | Frances E. Mihan | 500 | — | 38 | 43 | — | 32 | 37 | | | 1 | 4 |
| Third Grammar | Sarah L. Stoodley | 459 | 51 | 40 | 40 | 44 | 38 | 37 | | 11 | | 1 |
| Upper Medium School | E. S. Foster | 450 | 60 | 60 | 57 | 50 | 54 | 51 | | | | |
| Lower Medium | Addie B. Howes | 350 | 59 | 36 | 35 | 52 | 32 | 30 | | | | |
| Union St. Upper Primary | Sarah A. Sweetser | 450 | 51 | 48 | 44 | 43 | 42 | 40 | | | | |
| Union St. Lower Primary | Ruth L. Pratt | 450 | 57 | 47 | 43 | 48 | 40 | 33 | 2 | | | |
| Walnut St. Mixed | Sadie R. Lindsay | 350 | 44 | 47 | 46 | 34 | 39 | 39 | 2 | | | |
| Woburn St. Grammar | Helen M. Clark | 4 0 | 20 | 23 | 23 | 15 | 21 | 20 | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Woburn St. Primary | Lillian F. Loring | 300 | 27 | 22 | 20 | 25 | 20 | 18 | | | | |
| Lowell St. Mixed | E. Barrows | 300 | 31 | 24 | 19 | 22 | 20 | 16 | | | | |
| Main St. Mixed | Kate Brown | 300 | 17 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 13 | | | | |
| Haverhill St. Mixed | Abbie Wakefield | 300 | 11 | 15 | 13 | 9 | 13 | 11 | | | | |
| | | | 561 | 546 | 510 | 483 | 476 | 450 | 4 | 92 | 65 | 79 |

Length of terms: 1st, 13 weeks; 2d, 12 weeks; 3d, 14 weeks; total, 39 weeks.

Whole number of pupils in town between the ages of 5 and 15 years, 537.

Whole number of different pupils of all ages attending school during the year, 607.

# Expenses of Schools.

## HIGH SCHOOL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Mr. Cyrus A. Cole, principal, | $1800 00 | |
| Miss Martha Keith, assistant, | 700 00 | |
| For fuel, | 114 98 | |
| | | $2614 98 |

## FIRST GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Lena T. Wood, for teaching, | $266 64 | |
| Miss Eliza Norris, " | 39 45 | |
| Miss Ida M. Daniels, " | 277 77 | |
| Miss Jennie R. Barrus, assistant, (spring term), | 99 99 | |
| | | 683 85 |

## SECOND GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Frances E. Mihan, for teaching, | $333 34 | |
| For fuel, | 114 97 | |
| | | 448 31 |

## THIRD GRAMMAR SCHOOL — UNION STREET.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Annie M. Knight, for teaching, | $200 00 | |
| Miss Sarah L. Stoodley, " | 300 00 | |
| Miss A. B. Howes, assistant, (spring term), | 100 00 | |
| For fuel, | 28 50 | |
| | | 628 50 |

## UPPER MEDIUM SCHOOL — UNION STREET.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Frances E. Mihan, for teaching, | $166 66 | |
| Miss E. S. Foster, " | 300 00 | |
| For fuel, | 50 11 | |
| | | 516 77 |

## LOWER MEDIUM SCHOOL — UNION STREET.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Evelyn S. Foster, for teaching, | $150 00 | |
| Miss Addie B. Howes, " | 233 33 | |
| For fuel, | 50 11 | |
| | | 433 44 |
| Amount Carried Forward, | | $5325 85 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount Brought Forward, | | $5325 85 |

## UPPER PRIMARY SCHOOL—UNION STREET.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Sarah A. Sweetser, for teaching, | $450 00 | |
| For fuel, | 31 08 | |
| | | 481 08 |

## LOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL—UNION STREET.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Ruth L. Pratt, for teaching, | $450 00 | |
| " " in 1874–75, | 25 00 | |
| For fuel, | 31 08 | |
| | | $506 08 |

## JANITORS OF CENTRE SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid George W. Parker, for care of High School building, spring term, | $65 00 | |
| William Porter, for care of Union street buildings, spring term, | 130 00 | |
| Charles Robinson, for care of Centre School buildings, fall and winter terms, | 312 00 | |
| | | $507 00 |

## WALNUT STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Sarah L. Stoodley, for teaching, | $149 99 | |
| Miss Sadie Lindsay, " | 233 33 | |
| For care of rooms, | 61 75 | |
| For fuel, | 58 30 | |
| | | $503 37 |

## WOBURN STREET GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Helen M. Clark, for teaching, | 400 00 | |
| For care of room, | 29 63 | |
| For fuel, | 68 24 | |
| | | $497 87 |

## WOBURN STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Lillian F. Loring, for teaching, | $300 00 | |
| For care of room, | 29 62 | |
| For fuel, | 34 24 | |
| | | $363 86 |
| Amount Carried Forward, | | $8185 11 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount Brought Forward, | | $8185 11 |

## LOWELL STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss E. Barrows, for teaching, | $300 00 | |
| For care of room, | 28 50 | |
| For fuel, | 38 76 | |
| | | $367 26 |

## MAIN STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Sarah J. Morse, for teaching, | $100 00 | |
| Miss Kate Brown, | 200 00 | |
| For care of room, | 29 25 | |
| For fuel, | 23 42 | |
| | | $352 67 |

## HAVERHILL STREET MIXED SCHOOL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Miss Abbie Wakefield, for teaching, | $300 00 | |
| For care of room, | 29 25 | |
| For fuel, | 25 67 | |
| | | $354 92 |

## MUSICAL INSTRUCTION.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Mr. Henry G. Carey, for teaching, spring term, | | $166 65 |
| Total amount expended, | | $9426 61 |
| Appropriation, | $9000 00 | |
| Received for tuition, | 20 00 | |
| School fund, | 255 26 | |
| | $9275 26 | |
| Deficiency, | 151 35 | |
| | | $9426 61 |

## INCIDENTAL SCHOOL EXPENSES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Paid Citizen's Gas Light Co., for gas for High School, | $21 60 | |
| F. B. Smith, for repairs at Main Street School, | 1 80 | |
| Thompson & Brown, for maps for schools, | 20 25 | |
| J. L. Hammet, for sundries, | 12 85 | |
| Amount Carried Forward, | | $56 50 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| AMOUNT BROUGHT FORWARD, | $56 50 | |
| Paid Parker, White & Co., for chairs, | 33 33 | |
| Joseph L. Ross, for desk, | 18 00 | |
| William Porter, for labor at Union Street School, | 3 00 | |
| A. T. Murray, for diplomas for High School, | 10 00 | |
| R. P. Burgess, for repairs at High School house, | 6 00 | |
| T. Littlefield, for stove for Woburn Street School-house | 45 00 | |
| Gustavus Loring, for materials and labor, for repairs of school buildings, | 384 46 | |
| H. E. Putnam for materials and labor, for repairs of school buildings, | 37 12 | |
| J. C. Cook, for materials and labor, for repairs of school buildings, | 93 79 | |
| Lambert Brothers, for glass for school houses, | 3 50 | |
| William Bryant, for materials and labor, for repairs of school buildings, (balance after crediting $19.74 for materials), | 67 03 | |
| S. N. Stone, for materials for repairs, | 23 12 | |
| Benjamin Peabody, for pumps and repairs of pumps, | 18 00 | |
| William H. Bancroft, for repairs of school houses, | 5 97 | |
| A. Mertens, for use of pump, Union street, | 2 00 | |
| Eugene DeJean, for hardware, stoves, &c. (balance after crediting $1.88 for old iron), | 40 87 | |
| Charles H. Lang, for express fees, | 10 30 | |
| Hayward & Allen, for sundries, | 2 55 | |
| M. C. Warren & Co., for locks on school buildings, | 1 33 | |
| G. S. Coffin, for keys and tags, | 3 15 | |
| Parker & Stone, for sundries, | 17 11 | |
| T. A. Evans, for labor at schoolhouses, | 4 25 | |
| M. E. Nichols, for materials and labor, for repairs at High School-house, | 22 38 | |
| Burditt & Williams, for hardware for repairs, | 14 20 | |
| T. B. Pratt, for sundries, | 3 38 | |
| D. P. Babb, for cleaning and digging vaults, | 15 00 | |
| Warren Parker, for repairs of school buildings, | 2 18 | |
| Bancroft & Temple, for repairs on school buildings, | 10 59 | |
| L. E. Gleason, for books, stationery and sundries, from February 1872 to April 1875, | 42 94 | |
| N. W. Broad, for repairs on school buildings, | 3 97 | |
| F. J. Bancroft, for books and stationery for schools, | 50 07 | |
| " " " " " " pupils, | 6 49 | |
| " " " tuning piano at High School, | 3 50 | |
| W. E. Beard, for clock, | 6 00 | |
| James Reid & Co., for sundries, | 2 00 | |
| AMOUNT CARRIED FORWARD, | ——— | $1069 08 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount Brought Forward, | $1069 08 | |
| Paid J. C. Cook, for materials and labor on repairs of school buildings, | 17 80 | |
| William H. Willis, for books for schools, | 5 00 | |
| Hayward & Allen, for sundries, | 45 | |
| E. Safford, for building partition, and for materials and labor at High School-house, | 209 47 | |
| E. Safford, for use of Lyceum Hall for High School Exhibition, | 15 00 | |
| Eugene DeJean, for sundries, | 24 27 | |
| A. W. Danforth, for stationery, | 90 | |
| A. W. Beard, for repairs on school buildings, | 1 50 | |
| G. W. Atkinson, for sundries, | 7 05 | |
| L. E. Gleason, for crayons and stationery, | 6 99 | |
| G. O. Batchelder, for rent of lot for Main Street School-house, 1874 and 1875, | 10 00 | |
| Hollis & Gunn, for printing Course of Study, | 28 00 | |
| Parker & Stone, for sundries, | 4 76 | |
| Amos McIntire, for labor and materials for repairs of school buildings, | 21 27 | |
| J. N. Nichols, for setting glass at Lowell Street School-house, | 1 87 | |
| William M. Phillips, for materials and labor for repairs of school buildings, | 180 13 | |
| T. Littlefield, for funnel and sundries, | 6 60 | |
| Cummings' express, | 1 50 | |
| | | $1611 64 |
| Appropriation, | $1000 00 | |
| Deficiency, | 611 64 | |
| | | $1611 64 |

## RECAPITULATION.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount expended for teachers, care of rooms and fuel, | | $9426 61 |
| Appropriation, | $9000 00 | |
| School Fund, | 255 26 | |
| Received for Tuition, | 20 00 | |
| | | 9275 26 |
| Deficiency, | | $151 35 |
| Expended for incidental school expenses, | $1611 64 | |
| Appropriation, | 1000 00 | |
| Deficiency, | $611 64 | |